



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
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NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND ISSUE FEE DUE

LM32/0106

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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	TOTAL CLAIMS	EXAMINER AND GROUP ART UNIT	DATE MAILED		
20100-100	06/12/95	615	MARIAM, D	2721 01/06/98		
First Named Applicant		CHARLES C. STEARNS.				
TITLE OF INVENTION DECOMPRESSION OF MPEG COMPRESSED DATA IN A COMPUTER SYSTEM						
ATTY'S DOCKET NO.	CLASS-SUBCLASS	BATCH NO.	APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	FEES DUE	DATE DUE
			NO. 2 UTILITY	YES	\$660.00	04/06/98

**THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT.
PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED.**

THE ISSUE FEE MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED.

HOW TO RESPOND TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

- A. If the status is changed, pay twice the amount of the FEE DUE shown above and notify the Patent and Trademark Office of the change in status, or
- B. If the status is the same, pay the FEE DUE shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

- A. Pay FEE DUE shown above, or
- B. File verified statement of Small Entity Status before, or with, payment of 1/2 the FEE DUE shown above.

II. Part B-Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and returned to the Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) with your ISSUE FEE. Even if the ISSUE FEE has already been paid by charge to deposit account, Part B Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and returned. If you are charging the ISSUE FEE to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B-Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted.

III. All communications regarding this application must give application number and batch number.

Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Box ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Patent and Trademark Office

Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
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APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
08/489, 488	06/12/95	STEARNS	C M-3314-US

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EXAMINER

MARIAM, D

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2721

II

DATE MAILED: 01/06/98

This is a communication from the examiner in charge of your application.
COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS

NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course.

This communication is responsive to 10-14-97.

The allowed claim(s) is/are 1 - 15.

The drawings filed on _____ are acceptable.

Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

All Some* None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been

received.

received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____.

received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____

Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE to comply with the requirements noted below is set to EXPIRE THREE MONTHS FROM THE "DATE MAILED" of this Office action. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL APPLICATION, PTO-152, which discloses that the oath or declaration is deficient. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION IS REQUIRED.

Applicant MUST submit NEW FORMAL DRAWINGS

because the originally filed drawings were declared by applicant to be informal.

including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948, attached hereto or to Paper No. _____.

including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed on 4-16-97, which has been approved by the examiner.

including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment/Comment.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the reverse side of the drawings. The drawings should be filed as a separate paper with a transmittal letter addressed to the Official Draftsperson.

Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Any response to this letter should include, in the upper right hand corner, the APPLICATION NUMBER (SERIES CODE/SERIAL NUMBER). If applicant has received a Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due, the ISSUE BATCH NUMBER and DATE of the NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE should also be included.

Attachment(s)

- Notice of References Cited, PTO-892
- Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). _____
- Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948
- Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152
- Interview Summary, PTO-413
- Examiner's Amendment/Comment
- Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
- Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

Art Unit: 2721

Response to Amendment

1. In response to the Office Action, mailed July 10, 1997, applicant has submitted a request for a reconsideration , filed October 14, 1997, arguing to traverse the rejection of the pending claims 1-15.
2. Applicant's arguments against the rejection of claims 1, 3-5, 8 and 10-12 over Birch et al in view of Kulakowski et al, filed October 14, 1997, have been fully considered and are found to be persuasive so as to lead to the allowability of 1-15.

Response to Arguments

3. As applicant properly points out, on page 2 of the remarks, that Kulakowski et al discloses, two computer systems 240 and 241 each having essentially the same structure including the host processor and hardware and software decompression and compression. These two computers are linked as described by the Examiner. However, within either system there is no suggestion to partition the actual compression/decompression between two hardware processors. Instead, in each system the entire compression/decompression appears to reside, in terms of hardware, in the processors 253 and 272. Hence this reference merely shows linking of two computers. There is also no particular disclosure of how these systems interact in terms of the actual compression or decompression operations.

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4. On page 3 of the remarks, Applicant further points out, regarding the Birch et al reference, that there is no suggestion the compression control processor 34 actually undertakes any decompression on its own; instead Figure 2 seems to disclose that the entire decompression, including any of the user data and VBI data, is undertaken by the video decompression processor 32 and this data is merely separated out after decompression to be passed to the video interface, separately from the ordinary video data. In any case the user data and VBI data do not meet the claimed "system layer" in claims 1 and 8.

Hence, and in view of Applicant's argument presented above in paragraphs 3 and 4, the obviousness rejection thereof to independent claims 1 and 8 is withdrawn, making independent claims 1 and 8 allowable. Also, since claims 2-7 and 9-15 further restrict these independent claims, they are allowable also.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 1-15 are allowed, for reasons presented above under response to arguments.
6. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Art Unit: 2721

Conclusion

7. Effective November 16, 1997, the Examiner handling this application will be assigned to a new Art Unit as a result of the consolidation into Technology Center 2700. See the forth coming Official Gazette notice dated November 11, 1997. For any written or facsimile communication submitted ON OR AFTER November 16, 1997, this Examiner, who was assigned to Art Unit **2616**, will be assigned to Art Unit **2721**. Please include the new Art Unit in the caption or heading of any communication submitted after the November 16, 1997 date. Your cooperation in this matter will assist in the timely processing of the submission and is appreciated by the Office.

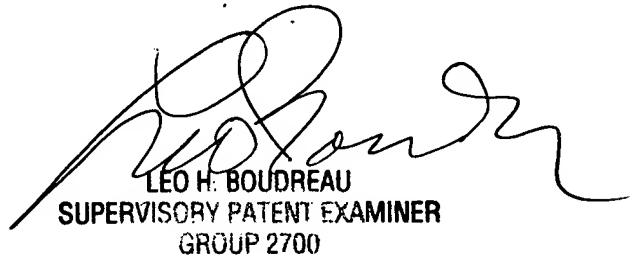
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Daniel G. Mariam whose telephone number is (703) 305-4010.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Leo H. Boudreau, can be reached on (703) 305-4706. The fax phone number for this group is (703) 308-5397.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

DGM

December 28, 1997



LEO H. BOUDREAU
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
GROUP 2700